GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1866
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2001
EXPORT OF SURPLUS FOODGRAINS
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to export surplus foodgrains, sugar and other agricultural products;

(b) if so, the details of the decision taken;

(c) the quantum of exports proposed and estimated foreign exchange likely to be earned; and

(d) the long-term policy of the Government in regard to agricultural exports and implications thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHAUHAN)

(a),(b),(c) & (d) : Information is given in the Annexure.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c) & (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1866 ANSWER IN THE LOK SABHA ON 9-3-2001.

EXPORT OF SURPLUS FOODGRAINS

Wheat
Wheat is being made available by FCI for export at a price not lower than the CIP for BPL category, which, at present is Rs. 4150/- PMT.
Rice
Rice is being made available by FCI to the highest tenderer for export @ Rs. 6750/-PMT. A ceiling of 20 lakh MTs has been fixed for export of both wheat and rice upto 31st March, 2001.
Sugar
Export of 10 lakh tonnes of sugar for the year 2000-2001 has been allowed and placed at disposal of APEDA for issuance of Registration cum Allocation Certificates.
Coarsegrains
Government has announced export of coarsegrains upto a ceiling of 50,000 MTs during 2000-2001, subject of issue of RCAC by APEDA.

The amount of foreign exchange earned depends on the total quantity exported and the price obtained with respect to every consignment of export of the above commodities. No estimate of foreign exchange likely to be earned can therefore be made.

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution (Department of Food & Public Distribution) is primarily concerned with the food security of the country. The Government constantly reviews the stock position of foodgrains with it in the Central Pool vis-â€¦-vis the prescribed buffer norms, production of foodgrains in the country, trend for procurement for Central Pool, requirement for Public Distribution System (PDS) and other welfare schemes,open market prices, etc. The decision to import or export foodgrains on Government Account is taken depending on the overall foodgrains availability situation.

Export of Sugar is subject to the quantitative ceiling fixed by the Government. The Government, keeping in view the production trends, requirement for internal consumption, prices of sugar and availability of alternative sweeteners etc., decides the quantity to be exported, in a particular year, out of the surplus sugar available in the country.